THE EXAMINER.

No. 46. SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 13, 1808.

THE POLITICAL EXAMINER.

Party is the madness of many for the gain of a few.
SWIFT.

No. 46.

AMERICAN REPUBLIC.

"The blind are said to feel with peculiar nicety. They who look but little into futurity, have perhaps the quickest sensation of the present. A merchant's desire is not of glory, but of gain; not of public wealth, but of private emolument; he is therefore rarely to be consulted about war and peace, or any designs of wide extent and distant consequence."—JOHNSON.

In London, of all other places, it is difficult for men to reason dispassionately upon commerce. The beauties of commerce surround them on all sides, in shops, in warehouses, in wharfs, by water and by land; in the Babels of exchange, in the shows of my LORD MAYOR who has grown great because he has grown rich, in the sumptuous dwelling-houses which the merchants enjoy among courtiers and noblemen, and lastly, in that manifest ascendancy which the commercial race has been gaining for years over the land-holders, and the old English nobility. Our eyes by constantly dwelling upon commerce become distempered, as if they had been looking on the sun, and turn every thing into gold; and people unfortunately discuss the question at the very times when circumstances most tend to blind them, as in the midst of their wines and warm dinners,

inter lances mensasque nitentes,

when they can hardly look at a single object without being dazzled by foreign luxury. The disputes of a coffee-house and the deliberations of a fireside take this inevitable tinge from the enjoyments of the moment; and the man, who sits before his fire, laying down the law, with his glass of wine between the finger and thumb of one hand, and the calf of his leg cherished over his knee with the other, is perfectly convinced of the necessity of a trade with Portugal, though we had a better constitution and a more prosperous state, before wine was ever brought upon our tables.

Without intending however to undervalue the benefits we derive from commerce, as long as it does not overflush us with luxuries and *give us a huge and florid appearance at the expense of our internal health*, we must not estimate the commercial politics of other nations by our own, and because trade is useful to an island, insist that it is necessary to a continent. Yet this is the logic of those outcries, which have been raised against the present system of American policy. The trading part of this country have had a considerable voice in public matters, ever since we had the misfortune to fight with money and with subsidies; they are the principal possessors of those organs of the public voice, the newspapers, and these are the men, who, whenever our commerce receives the slightest check, identify their own interest with that of the country, and cry out that Embargo is another word for national ruin.

It is absolutely necessary, in order to be sound politicians, to get out of this ideot's sphere of judging merely from things about us, to abstract our minds from petty, from selfish and from local feelings, and to look down upon the world from some eminence that shall give us a collected view of mankind rather than jostle about in a noisy and busy crowd where we can see but a few yards before us. "Give me," said ARCHIMEDES, "a place whereon to stand, and I will move the world." It is precisely the same in politics; and those wise men who have placed themselves above the common passions and interests of men, have found the desideratum of the philosopher, and have moved the whole earth.

America is a rising country, of an almost unbounded extent, with an excellent soil, and a population that encroaches every day upon regions hardly explored.—This nation has to choose at present between commerce and agriculture, between a moxied confinement to the sea-shore and every thing that makes a liberal and vigorous power in the continent. Mr. JEFFERSON, the President, recommends to them the latter, and without being a decided admirer of that gentleman, without saying any thing of his partiality to France, I think that in this respect he is right and philosophic.

That the present embargo in the American ports is a direct blow to their commerce is self-evident; but the question is, not as the merchants would put it, whether commerce is hurt or not, but whether commerce is at all useful to the proper growth of the nation. Now without endeavouring to establish the superiority of agriculture over commerce, a superiority which the disinterested of all ages have sufficiently proved, it is impossible that the American States should be long confined to the sea-shore, because commerce begets an unthinking luxury, and this luxury begets idle passions, and indolence and corruption beget the disorders that divide a state. A continental people may be commercial, so long as the internal part of their continent is in a barbarous state and unable to attack them.

This was the case with Phenicia and with Carthage. The sea itself compelled the Hollanders to be commercial, but we see how easily a great revolution among their neighbours has paralized the whole nation. It has been thus with Venice, with Portugal, with the Mediterranean Coast of France, with every continental border in short, that was once rich or powerful upon the ocean. It is the policy therefore of Mr. Jefferson to turn the minds of the Americans inwardly, to make them look to their own resources in their own lands, to get that true *provision* of a nation which is at last the end of all industry whatever, and consequently to obtain a vigorous and a manly population, proud of their soil and lovers of their country. The commercial part of a nation give us a gay or a grand appearance, they dress us in finery, they are the tailors of the body politic; but the yeomanry, the peasantry, the tillers of the soil, the agriculturalists, are the nerves, the muscles, and the heart's blood. It is the want of a peasantry that renders a commercial country so easy a prey to invasion, for if you once get over it's ships, you have conquered it's strength; and a multitude of trading vessels, so far from adding to the strength of a navy, diminish it by requiring it's protection, till the vigour of a naval power is half spent in convoying and guarding it's commerce at a distance from home.

The Romans conquered the Carthaginians because the latter had no peasantry, no people attached to the earth which might have fed and enriched them and at the same time have preserved their *physical and moral strength*; and I am persuaded, that if ever Great Britain can be invaded with success, it will be when it is entirely engrossed with commerce, when merchants shall possess all our parks and our palaces, when the quantity of luxuries imported shall exceed our raw exportation so as to bring little in the country to contribute to labour and to provision;—in short, when commerce, which in its proper state is only the means of agricultural provision, shall become the end of it, and men shall cease to marry, to be independent, and to think well of themselves as men, because they will be unable to do so, unless they can obtain the *necessary* riches and luxury. Let us look at the Chinese, who have been as grossly despised by some as praised by others. They are a continental people and have wisely preferred agriculture to commerce: they live upon the produce of their lands and their rivers, have an amazing population, understand the most useful arts, create their nobility out of their men of talent, and will have nothing to do with factories and foreigners; and the consequence is, that they have existed longer as a political body than any one nation on record. This fact is in itself a proof of their excellent political economy, though the catalogue of their errors may otherwise be as long as their pigtails. I do not mean to say I would prefer living in China to my own country. God forbid! We have a constitution that may be rendered the best in the world; commerce, which is a rational and noble pursuit to the superfluous population of an island, has not yet overwhelmed our agriculture; we enjoy the fine arts of our predecessors and promise much in our rising generation; not to mention besides, that I prefer feet to hoofs, and the fine daylight eyes of my fair countrywomen to the candle-sockets that twinkle behind the high cheek bones of a Tartar beauty:—but I do say, that I would rather live in China, where the best ambition of the human intellect is respected, than among the noisy and vulgar money-changers of America, whose God is a very Dagon, an image with a head of block and bowels of halfpence.

Such is the present spirit of the Americans; and what is the consequence? They have no public dignity, no public spirit; they have no literature, arts, or sciences whatever, and they never will, till they look more inwardly upon themselves and their native soil, till they begin to act and to feel like men. They are not to be considered as a new nation in science, for they have the advantage of the language and the literature of the mother country; they are the sons of civilized people, not savages sprung from the soil, and yet their literature is worse than barbarous; even the Laplanders and the African negroes are fond of poetry; but poetry and poverty seem to be united in the apprehension of the Americans, and they have never yet produced a single couplet worth reading. Their drama is a degree lower than the present state of our own; and nonsense, I think, has no fathom-line that will go deeper than this. Their philosophy, natural and moral, is of a much more exquisite depth. They know no writing so beautiful as the ledger, no picture so lively as the national coin, no music so animating as the chinking of a purse. There never existed in the whole country a writer or philosopher, whose name will descend to posterity, but Dr. Franklin, and even this extraordinary man, in spite of his philosophy, was of a mean money-getting spirit, and after amassing a splendid fortune and maintaining the liberty of opinion, cut off his only son with a shilling for differing with him in politics. This is a specimen of the *philosophic* spirit, which dictated that Miser's-Manual, called *Poor Richard's Almanack*, a publication which has contaminated the Americans with the lust of gain as much as Ovid did the Romans with the lust of women. In short, there is but one name for the United States with regard to all that renders a nation dignified in the eyes of posterity;—they are the Grub-street of the world.

☞

FOREIGN INTELLIGENCE.

FRANCE.

Paris, Oct. 26.—Yesterday his Majesty the Emperor and King went in grand state to the Palace of the Legislative Body, in order to open the sitting.—His Majesty addressed the Assembly as follows:—

"*Messieurs, the Deputies of the Departments to the Legislative Body,*

"The code of laws, laying down the principles of property and of civil freedom, which forms the subject of your labours, will be adopted as the sentiment of Europe. My people already experience the most salutary effects from them.

"The latest laws have laid the foundation of our system of finance. That is a monument of the might and greatness of France. We shall henceforward be able to meet the expenditure which might be rendered necessary, even by a general coalition of Europe, from our yearly income alone. Never shall we be reduced to have recourse to the fatal expedients of *paper money*, of *loans*, or of *anticipations of revenue*.

"I have, in the present year, laid out more than a 1000 miles of road. The system of works which I have established for the improvement of our territory, will be carried forward with zeal.

"The prospect of the great French family lately torn to pieces by opinions and intestine rancour, but now prosperous, tranquil, and united, has affected my soul in a remarkable manner. *I have felt that, in order to be happy, I should in the first place be assured that France was happy.*

"The peace of Presburgh, that of Tilsit, the assault of Copenhagen, the plans of England against all nations on the ocean, the different revolutions at Constantinople, the affairs of Spain and Portugal, have, in various ways, exercised an influence on the affairs of the world.

"Russia and Denmark have united with me against England.

"The United States of America have rather chosen to abandon commerce and the sea, than to acknowledge their slavery.

"A part of my army has marched against that which England has formed in Spain, or has disembarked. It is a distinguished favour of that Providence, which has constantly protected our arms, that passion has so far blinded the English Councils, that they abandon the defence of the seas, and *at last produce their army on the Continent.*

"I depart in a few days to put myself in person at the head of my army, and, with God's help, to crown the King of Spain in Madrid, and to plant my Eagles on the forts of Portugal.

"I have only to praise the sentiments of the Princes of the Confederation of the Rhine.

"Switzerland experiences more and more the benefits of the Act of Mediation.

"The people of Italy give me grounds for nothing but expressions of satisfaction.

"The Emperor of Russia and myself have had an interview at Erfurth. Our first thought was a thought of peace. We have even resolved to make some sacrifices, in order to enable the hundred millions of men whom we represent, if possible the sooner to enjoy the benefits of the commerce of the seas. *We are agreed, and unchangeably united, as well for peace as for war.*

"*Messieurs Deputies,*

"I have ordered my Minister of Finance, and of the General Treasury, to lay before you an account of the receipt and expenditure of the year. You will therein see, with satisfaction, that I have not felt it necessary to increase the tarif with any impost. My people shall experience no new burdens.

"The Speakers of my Council of State will submit to you many plans of laws, and, among others, all those which have relation to the criminal code.

"I rely constantly on your co-operation."

His Majesty's speech excited the most lively emotion, and the Sitting was closed under repeated acclamations of *Long live the Emperor!* The same rejoicings were manifested in the streets through which his Majesty passed.

Oct. 28.—Yesterday at noon, the Emperor being seated on his throne, surrounded by the Princes, Grand Officers, and Officers of his Household, the Ministers, Members of the Senate, and Council of State, received at the Palace of the Thuilleries, a Deputation of the Legislative Body. The Deputation being admitted to the foot of the Throne, his Excellency the Count De Fontanes, the President, pronounced the following Address:—

"Sire,—The Legislative Body lays at your Majesty's feet the Address of Thanks voted by the French people, as well as by them.

"The paternal sentiments contained in the Speech you have delivered from the throne, have diffused throughout love and gratitude.

"The first of Captains sees something more heroic and elevated than victory. Yes, Sire, we have it from your own mouth: there is an authority more powerful and permanent than that of arms—it is the authority which is founded upon good laws and national institutions. The codes which your wisdom dictated will extend further than your conquests, and reign, without effort, over twenty different nations, whose benefactor you are.

"The Legislative Body ought, above all, to celebrate those peaceful triumphs, which are never followed but by the blessings of the human race.

"Legislation and the Finances—it is to that that our own duties are confined, and it is from you we have received that double benefit.

"To you was it given to re-discover social order under the wreck of a vast Empire, and to re-establish the fortune of the State in the ravages of war.

"You have created, as you have every thing besides, the true elements of the system of Finance. That system, the most proper for great Monarchies, is simple and fixed as the principle that governs them; it is not sustained by those artificial means which have all the inconstancy of opinions and of events—it is imperishable as the fidelity of our soil.

"If sometimes difficult circumstances render new taxes necessary, those taxes, always proportioned to that necessity, do not exceed the duration of it. The future is not devoured beforehand. We shall see no more, after years of glory, the State sunk under the weight of the public debt, and bankruptcy, followed by revolutions, open an abyss in which thrones and society itself are entirely lost.

"These miseries are far from us. The receipts equal the expenditure. The present burthens will not be augmented; and you give us that assurance at the moment when other States are exhausting all their resources.—When you immolate your own happiness, the happiness of the people occupies your whole soul. It was affected with the aspect of the Grand Family (for this you call France), and though sure of its utmost devotedness, you offer peace at the head of a million of invincible warriors!

"It is with this generous design that you say the Emperor of Russia. Hitherto, when Sovereigns so powerful approached each other from the extremities of Europe, all the neighbouring States were in alarm. Sinister and menacing presages accompanied their grand interviews. The two first Monarchs of the world unite their standards not to invade, but to pacify the world.

"Sire, your Majesty has pronounced the word fatal

fices, and we dare say to your Majesty, that word completes all your triumphs. Certainly the nation wishes no more than yourself for those sacrifices that would injure their glory and yours; but there was but one means of increasing your grandeur, it was to moderate the use of it. You have shewn us the spectacle of force which subdues every thing, and you reserve for us a more extraordinary spectacle, that of force subduing itself.

"A hostile people, it is true, pretend to retard this last glory. They have descended upon the Continent at the voice of discord and of factions. Already you have taken up your arms to march and meet them—already you abandon France, which for so many years has seen you but for so few days; you depart, and I know not what fear, inspired by love and tempered by hope, has disturbed all our hearts. Yet, we know full well, that wherever you are, you carry with you fortune and victory. The country accompanies you with its regret and its wishes; it recommends you to her brave children who form your faithful legions. Her wishes will be accomplished—all your soldiers swear upon their swords to watch round a head so dear and so glorious, where so many destinies repose. Sire, the hand that has led you from miracle to miracle, to the summit of human grandeur, will abandon neither France nor Europe, which yet, for so long a time, stands in need of you."

His Majesty replied—

"Gentlemen, President, and Deputies of the Legislative Body—My duty and my inclinations lead me to share the dangers of my Soldiers. We are mutually necessary. My return to my capital shall be speedy. I think little of fatigues, when they can contribute to insure the glory and grandeur of France. I recognize, in the solicitude you express, the love you bear me.—I thank you for it."

TURKEY.

CONSTANTINOPLE, SEPT. 27.—In the memory of man we have not enjoyed so great tranquillity as at present reigns here. We are indebted for it to the Grand Vizier, Mustapha Bairactar, who hold with a firm hand the reins of government. He has enjoined all the Pachas punctually to execute his orders, for the good and surety of the Ottoman Empire, and has given them to understand that in case they fail in it, they may expect the most severe punishment. He is principally occupied in making the Janissaries submit to proper discipline, who for many ages, as well as lately, would arrogate to themselves the right of deposing the Sultans. The least insubordination, the most slight murmur, is punished with death, but they receive their pay upon the exact day fixed. The Grand Vizier is firmly resolved to put the whole army, as soon as possible, upon the same footing as those of Nizam Geddid. We know that this corps has been raised and exercised after the European manner, and that it cost the unfortunate Selim his throne and life, for having formed it. The Grand Seignior has the greatest confidence in Mustapha Bairactar, who has placed him upon the throne; the Pachas of the Provinces obey the orders of the Grand Vizier, because they know the activity and firmness of his character. The political considerations between the Porte and Russia are still in the same state. We only know that the Russian army in Moldavia and Wallachia has received considerable reinforcements.

DENMARK.

COPENHAGEN, OCT. 8.—An article from Gottenburgh contains a remarkable trait of swindling, which deserves to be made public, not only on account of its great boldness and adroitness, but in order to put all merchants upon their guard against a similar occurrence. One of the first houses in Gottenburgh received a letter from London, in which they were requested to instantly make the most diligent inquiries to discover a young Englishman, who had just fled from the house of a rich banker, and who they knew had embarked on board a ship freighted for Sweden. The description of the young man was given in this letter, and he was declared the author of a robbery to the amount of 12,000l. sterling in bank notes. "If you should find him, said the letter, as he belongs to a respectable family, confine yourself to the making him restore the plunder; and afterwards have the goodness to give him 300 guineas in gold, which will take him to the Indies, where nothing more will be heard of him." The Swedish merchant, to whom this letter was addressed, caused a thorough search to be made on all sides: at last being one day on the Exchange, he perceived a young man whose figure and dress perfectly answered the description. He addressed him, and seeing that he was an Englishman, invited him to follow him. The young man hesitated, reddened, turned pale, even shed tears; in a word, before he had arrived at the merchant's house, he had confessed all. Arrived in his closet, he threw himself at his feet, begged of him not to be delivered up to justice, and gave him the 12,000l. sterl. which was still inclosed in a port-folio, under the seal of the banker. The Swedish merchant made many serious remonstrances to him, but according to his instructions gave him the 300 guineas, and promised to procure him a favourable opportunity of going to Bengal. He made haste to inform the Banker in London that his 12,000l. were recovered, who replied, that he did not understand what he meant. The bank notes were all forged, but the 300 guineas given to the sharper were good.—(*Monitcur, October* 28.)

PROVINCIAL INTELLIGENCE.

Mr. Dowlen, a publican at Towcester, Somerset, on Wednesday last completed, perhaps the most wonderful performance ever heard of. For a wager of 100 guineas, he engaged to go 500 miles in seven days, on chosen ground, and to take his rest as he thought proper.—He started on Thursday se'nnight, and finished the distance in Hampshire at three o'clock on Wednesday afternoon, having taken his course through Berks, Wilts, Somerset, Herefordshire, and a part of Devonshire. The pedestrian is a stout man, not more than five feet in height, and a native of Merionethshire, in Wales.

TUESDAY'S LONDON GAZETTE.

Admiralty-Office, Nov. 8.

Vice Admiral Sir J. Saumarez has transmitted to the Hon. W. W. Pole, a letter he had received from Lieut. Wells, acting Commander of his Majesty's sloop the Cruizer, dated off the Winga, the first inst. giving an account of his having, on that day, fallen in with a Danish flotilla, of about 20 armed cutters, luggers, gun-vessels, and row-boats; and of his having captured one of them, a schuyt-rigged privateer, of 10 four-pounders and 32 men; the remainder having made their escape by running under the island of Læsoe.

[This Gazette contains also contains accounts of the following captures:—The Danish sloop Frernskernsten, of four guns and 21 men, with her prize, the Lord Nelson sloop, by the Childers sloop, Capt. Packwood:—and the Point du Jour French lugger privateer, of three guns and 30 men, by the Brilliant, Capt. Smyth.]

BANKRUPTS.

J. Miller, Brighton, bricklayer, to surrender Nov. 30, Dec. 1, 20, at the Old Ship Tavern, Brighton. Attorney, Mr. Ellis, Hatton-garden.

J. Nixon, Bewcastle Demesne, Cumberland, drover, Nov. 28, 29, Dec. 30, at the Bush Inn, Carlisle. Attorney, Mr. Mounsey, Staple-Inn.

N. Haughton, Oakshaw, Cumberland, drover, Nov. 28, 29, Dec. 20, at the Bush Inn, Carlisle. Attorney, Mr. Mountsey, Staple-Inn.

J. Connellan, St. Catherine's, ship-chandler, Nov. 12, 15, Dec. 20, at Guildhall, Attornies, Messrs. Bourdillon and Hewitt, Little Friday-street, Cheapside.

T. Lyon, Liverpool, merchant, Nov. 23, 24, Dec. 20, at the Globe Tavern, Liverpool. Attorney, Mr. Windle, John-street, Bedford-row.

W. Tompson, jun. Wolverhampton, grocer, Dec. 5, 6, 20, at the Littleton's Arms, Penkridge. Attorney, Mr. Williams, Staple-Inn.

W. More, Halesworth, Suffolk, sadler, Nov. 21, 22, Dec. 20, at the Angel, Halesworth. Attorney, Mr. Pugh, Bernard-street, Russell-square.

J. Rose, Road, Somersetshire, farmer, Nov. 18, 19, Dec. 20, at the Christopher Inn, Bath. Attornies, Messrs. Shephard and Adlington, Bedford-row.

R. Parsons, Lyncombe and Widcombe, Somerset, grocer, Nov. 18, 19, Dec. 20, at the Christopher Inn, Bath. Attornies, Messrs. Shephard and Addlington, Bedford-row, London.

DIVIDENDS.

Nov. 29. R. Bryan, Greek-street, Soho, tallow-chandler. Dec. 1. W. Swann, Stockport, brazier.—Nov. 30. D. Johnston, Brown-street, smith.—Dec. 3. R. Atkinson, H. Watters, and W. Ord, Fenchurch-street, wine-merchants.—Dec. 6. J. Bland and J. Satterthwaite, Fen-court, insurance-brokers.—Dec. 3. S. P. Parke, East Smithfield, liquor-merchant.—Dec. 5. E. Woodroffe, Woollastone, Gloucestershire, iron-manufacturer.—Dec. 2. T. Sutton, Ringmore, Devon, shipbuilder.—Nov. 29. W. Morris, Manchester, leather-seller.—Nov. 28. R. Barnes, Manchester, victualler.—N. 28. J. Kershaw, Manchester, coal-dealer.—Dec. 17. D. Holmes, Piccadilly, warehouseman.—Nov. 29. J. Lowe, Chelford, Cheshire, inn-keeper.—Nov. 30. B. Travers and J. Esdaile, jun. Queen-street, Cheapside, sugar-dealers.—Nov. 29. S. Davis, Bury-street, St. Mary Axe, merchant.—Dec. 1. W. Anderton, Liverpool, upholsterer.—Dec. 1. R. Wood and T. Liddall, Barnsley, Yorkshire, linen-manufacturers.—Dec 2. J. Oldfield, Liverpool, merchant.

SATURDAY'S LONDON GAZETTE.

This Gazette contains an account of the capture of the Danish privateer Naargske Gutten, of seven guns and 36 men, by the Tartar, Capt. Baker.—It also contains a Notification from the Admiralty, that a Floating Light had been stationed off the Scaw, for the safety of the passing convoys, and information that the enemy had shewn False Lights on the Coast of Jutland, with a view of deceiving vessels navigating the Sleeve.

BANKRUPTS.

G. Miller, Woolwich, taylor, to surrender Nov. 17, at one, 30, Dec. 24, at eleven, at Guildhall, London. Attorney, Mr. West, Clement's-Inn.

W. Pepplestone, Plymouth, grocer, Dec. 12, 13, 24, at eleven, at the Commercial Inn, Plymouth. Attorney, Mr. Coryndon, Plymouth.

J. Smith, Saffron-hill, grocer, Nov. 15, 19, at one, Dec. 24, at ten, at Guildhall. Attornies, Messrs. Jones and Green, Salisbury-square.

D. Jones, Pentro-Back, Glamorganshire, grocer, Nov. 28, 29, Dec. 24, at eleven, at the Rummer Tavern, Bristol. Attorney, Mr. Bigg, Bristol.

Ann Campbell, Huddersfield, merchant, Dec. 1, 2, 24, at eleven, at the Yew Tree, Robert-Town. Attorney, Mr. Lee, Leeds.

J. Dunn, Stockport, Cheshire, draper, Dec. 5, 6, 24, at two, at the Bridgewater Arms, Manchester. Attorney, Mr. Morgan, Manchester.

T. Williams, Shoe-lane, vinther, Nov. 17, at one, 30, at ten, Dec. 24, at eleven, at Guildhall. Attorney, Mr. Salkeld, Dowgate-hill.

H. Webster, Roll's-buildings, Fetter-lane, jeweller, Nov. 22, at one, 29, Dec. 24, at ten, at Guildhall. Attorney, Mr. Lee, Castle-street, Holborn.

J. Potts, White Bear-yard, Back-hill, looking-glass-frame-maker, Nov. 15, 26, Dec. 24, at eleven, at Guildhall. Attornies, Messrs. Cruchley and Fry, John-street, Bedford-row.

T. Pearson, Roughburchworth, Yorkshire, tanner, Nov. 22, 23, Dec. 24, at ten, at the Angel Inn, Sheffield. Attornies, Messrs. Remington and Wake, Sheffield.

N. Goodman, March, Isle of Ely, Cambridgeshire, liquor-merchant, Nov. 24, at two, 25, Dec. 24, at eleven, at the Griffin Inn, March. Attorney, Mr. Matthews, March.

B. Radley, Dewsbury, Yorkshire, clothier, Nov. 25, 26, Dec. 24, at eleven, at the Stafford Arms, Wakefield. Attorney, Mr. Clarkson, Wakefield.

J. Wilmot, East Markham, Nottinghamshire, butcher, Nov. 23, 24, Dec. 24, at eleven, at the Angel Inn, East Retford. Attorney, Mr. Fisher, Gainsburgh.

R. Frith, Broughton-Ford, Lancashire, calico-printer, Nov. 24, Dec. 6, 24, at ten, at the Palace Inn, Manchester. Attorney, Mr. Edge, Manchester.

J. Rand, Deptford, Kent, brewer, Nov. 22, 29, Dec. 24, at eleven, at Guildhall, London. Attorney, Mr. Saward, Rotherhithe.

T. Marchent, Bridgewater, Somersetshire, bookseller, Dec. 3, at ten, at the Globe Inn, Bridgewater. Attorney, Mr. Dean, Bridgewater.

DIVIDENDS.

Nov. 19. Wm. Dartnall, George-yard, Lombard-street, stationer.—Dec. 6. R. Drimmy, Great George-street, Minories, taylor.—Dec. 8. J. Pickup, Burnley, Lancashire, cotton-spinner.—Dec. 8. J. Thomson, Burnley, Lancashire, grocer.—Dec. 12. T. Tite, Daventry, Northamptonshire, auctioneer.—Dec. 3. J. Bridger, jun. Mortlake, Surrey, tallow-chandler.—Dec. 5. S. Twamley, Eardington, Salop, ironmaster.—Dec. 17. C. Hingeston and R. Hingeston, Walbrook, men's-mercers.—Dec. 13. Wm. Tucker, jun. Exeter, serge-manufacturer.—Dec. 5. J. Parker, Edgbaston, Warwickshire, rope-maker.—Dec. 3. T. Young, Bartlett-passage, Holborn, jeweller.—Dec. 9. W. Brewer, Cirencester, innholder.—Dec. 5. A. German and J. Jephson, Town of Nottingham, hosiers, and cotton-sellers. Dec. 15. J. Easterbrooke, of Exeter, hatter.—John Townsend, Stones End, Southwark, wine-merchant.—Dec. 13. E. Townsend, Maiden-lane, wine-merchant.—Dec. 24. L. Severn, Coleman-street, trunk-maker.

CERTIFICATES—Nov. 26.

J. Parker, Edgbaston, Warwickshire, rope-maker.—T. Bancutt, Long Buckby, Northamptonshire, money-scrivener.—S. Pears, Bread-street, London, warehouseman, and J. J. and J. Watson, Preston, Lancashire, cotton-manufacturers.—M. Gibson, Bermondsey,

shopkeeper.—J. Cogolan, Liverpool, victualler.—S. Knight, Frome Selwood, Somersetshire, taylor.—W. Bedford and S. Sumner, Foster-lane, linen-drapers.—Wm. Roderick, Llanelly, Carmarthen, dealer.—T. Preston, Aldermanbury, warehouseman.—E. Mason, Great Bell-alley, Coleman-street, carpenter.—T. Cole, Dagenham, Essex, baker.

TO CORRESPONDENTS.

The Essays mentioned by E. W. will certainly be published, but through what medium it has not yet been decided.

THE EXAMINER.

LONDON, NOVEMBER 13.

No intelligence of importance has arrived during the course of the past week, either from France or Spain. The armistice between Russia and Sweden has been suddenly broken, in consequence, it is supposed, of orders from Erfurth. The Swedes are said to have been defeated on the occasion with considerable loss. There can be little doubt, that BONAPARTE has made some tempting offers to ALEXANDER respecting Swedeo, though if the Swedes could hold together under so impolitic a king as their present one, they would be less easy to conquer than the Spaniards. The King of DENMARK would find it still more difficult to gain possession of a French grant out of Sweden, for there is exactly the same jealousy between the Danes and Swedes as between the French and England. But when the head of the nation is half mad, the other limbs of the body politic are half ready for blows and chains.

The Report of the meeting at Hackney with its manly proceedings is earnestly recommended to the readers of this Paper. They will there see what Englishmen can say and can determine, in spite of power and corrupt influence, when they act entirely upon constitutional principles. I shall take an early opportunity, when I am less oppressed with head-achs and bad plays, of expatiating more largely upon these meetings, their uses, and their *obstructions*.

Gottenburgh, Nov. 1.

The armistice in Finland was broken by the Russians on the 27th ult. and a severe engagement ensued, the result of which is not yet known, but it is feared the Swedes have been worsted. The King is returned to Stockholm.

Plymouth, Nov. 10.

It is rather remarkable, that although the *Windsor Castle* packet, arrived at Falmouth in five days from St. Andero, brings an account of a decisive victory over NEY, by BLAKE, on the 24th ult. yet the letters received here from the *Seine*, 38, and *Cossack* 18, at St. Andero, dated the 31st ult. do not mention one word of the battle having been fought, and only give the exact position of the French and Spanish armies near Bilboa. These letters add, a battle was expected to be fought soon.

Some Spanish Papers to the 28th inst. reached town on Friday. The efforts of the Patriots in Catalonia have been attended with a considerable degree of success; the French are nearly shut up in Barcelona. Lieut.-Colonel CARROLL, one of the British Officers attached to the army of Gen. BLAKE, has published an address to the inhabitants of Biscay, in which he confidently anticipates the success of the Spanish arms.

The proposal sent from Erfurth, it is now said, was to the following effect:—That we "should acknowledge JOSEPH as King of Spain, and that BONAPARTE was then ready to treat with us upon any terms we might propose." To which, our answer is said to have been, that "he should restore FERDINAND, and we had then no objection to negotiate on the *uti possidetus*."

Four Portugueze sailors contrived to make their escape from Flushing, in an open boat, on the 7th inst. and arrived at Deal on Wednesday night last. They report that nine sail of the line, a 50 gun ship and a frigate, ready to sail at an hour's notice if they could escape the vigilance of the British squadron.

List of Relatives or Adherents of BONAPARTE, elevated by him to Royal and other Dignities:—

Joseph Bonaparte	King of	Spain—*in nubibus.*
Louis	———	Holland.
Jerome	———	Westphalia.
Eugene Beauhanois ...	Vicergy of	Italy.
Infant daughter of do..	Princess of	Bologna.
Cardinal Fesche.....	Archbp. of	Lyons, and Primate of the Confederation of the Rhine.
Joachim Murat.....	King of	Naples.
———	G. Duke of	Cleves and Berg—*in petto.*
C. M. Talleyrand	Prince of	Benevento.
Marshal Bernadotte...	———	Ponte Corvo.
Berthier	———	Neufchatel.
Marmont	Duke of	Ragusa.
Junot.....	———	Abrantes.
Savary	———	Rovigo.
Soult	———	Dalmatia.
Mortier.....	———	Treviso.
Lefebvre.....	———	Dantzic.
Davoust	———	Auesrstadt.
Mons. Cambaceres ..	———	Parma.
Le Brun.....	———	Piacenza.
Lacue.....	Count	Sessac.
Clarke	——	Hunenberg.

The Creditors of Messrs. WALSH and NISBET had yesterday their first meeting in the court of Common Pleas, Guildhall.—Nothing decisive took place, although the matter was argued for upwards of three hours by Messrs. CULLEN, MONTAGUE and FRESHFIELD. The Commissioners (there being four present) were equally divided in opinion, whether those creditors of WALSH and NISBET who were purchasers of tickets of them, were or were not to be considered as partners in the concern; for if they were so deemed, they of course could not be permitted to prove their debts under the commission. The business must now go before the CHANCELLOR. Mr. ERIN and half of the Members of the Stock Exchange were present, and the court was crowded almost to suffocation. The meeting was rather stormy, but not so violent as some expected; though there was a sufficient want of order and decorum.

The great Dinner-hall at Chelsea Hospital is fitting up for the Court of Inquiry, in the same manner that it was on General Whitelocke's trial. It will not assemble, we understand, until Sir H. Burrard arrives from Portugal.

The Staffordshire Meeting on Friday was expected to be a stormy one. The county has been inundated with hand-bills and pamphlets. Lord Dudley and Ward was expected with a numerous party. Lord St. Vincent, it was supposed, would open the Meeting.

It is intended to send more men to Spain, both from this country and from Ireland. The transports that lately sailed from Portsmouth will return immediately to that place and to Cork, under convoy of two frigates, with a view to this object. From the circumstance of these being chiefly cavalry transports, it is likely that the new expedition will consist of that description of force.

An advocate for the brutal practice of stage-boxing, in the *Morning Chronicle*, ascribes to it some of our most important national victories. Now it is universally declared, by Officers, both of the Army and Navy, that, with very few exceptions, both soldiers and sailors who have been originally professed boxers, are notorious cowards.

A Gentleman in Wales, who had in vain attempted to terrify intruders from entering his garden, by placeing steel-traps, and other engines, thought of the following device:—He wrote to a friend of his in London, an eminent surgeon, desiring him to send down the first leg he should amputate. This request was very soon complied with. In that part of the country it is usual, after service on Sunday, for the Cryer to proclaim when any thing is lost, &c. because the concourse of people at that time is greater than at any other. The leg was delivered to this officer, who standing upon a tomb in the church-yard, and holding the naked limb in his hand, gave notice that it had been found the preceding night in J. M. Esq.'s garden, and whoever owned it might come and receive the property without punishment. Although no one appeared to claim the member, the sight of the mangled limb made such an impression on the minds of the spectators, that no depredations were committed, in the gentleman's garden or premises, whose produce was secured by this ingenious artifice.

THEATRICAL EXAMINER.

No. 33.

Declining reputation of the modern dramatists.—Definition of a light piece—Origin and use of English melodrama—Mr. Hook's new piece of the Siege of St. Quintin—Its violation of history, and venerable age of character and dialogue—Braham's minstrel—A singular report respecting the literary assistance Mr. Hook has received—Mr. Reynolds's Exile—The injury he has done the story—A word or two on rhymes—Mrs. St. Leger, Mrs. Dickons—The excellent acting of Mr. Young—Advice to the dramatists in case of a dramatic reformation.

DRURY-LANE.

Within these two or three years, the public have certainly lost a great deal of respect for those huge farces, which they were good-natured enough to call operas and comedies. I recollect the time, when Messrs. Reynolds, Cobb and Dibdin never wrote a play, but it was panegyrized in all the newspapers and magazines; wit and fine satire went hand in hand with their puns and caricatures, their faces smirked upon us from the *superb engravings* with a sidelong satisfaction, and all the critics shuddered when I begged leave to differ with their opinions. Now however the case is considerably altered: Punch is no longer a specimen of polite learning: some of the periodical works have changed their tone because they have changed their critics, some from conviction, and others because they will always think as the public think; and though there still remain a few critics, who upon the strength of saying "How d'ye do?" in the boxes, and of arguing upon the public spirited principle of cheating the town to assist their acquaintances, will do violence to their better judgment and praise a bad play, yet even these gentlemen do it with so piteous a labour, with such evident shrugs and wincings and recoilings, that they are obliged, in pity to their own conscience, to confess that the piece is *light*—that is the word:—a very pleasant piece but *light*, and exactly "*what the author intended it.*" We see how unwillingly they betray themselves. This word *light* in their own heartfelt sense, does not mean a quality opposed to mere heaviness, not soul opposed to corporeality, not a fairy genius composed of spirit and full of a charming volatility, but something in direct contradiction to every thing that is full, solid, and sterling, a light scale mounting from its emptiness, or a light guinea, glittering and completely worthless.

The dramatists have perceived the progress of this sound feeling among the public, and they have now a habit of concealing themselves as much as possible in the very midst of their productions. They see that the public are sick of their puns and their palsied dialogue, which dances and nods about with its own weakness instead of lively intelligence, and therefore they clothe and constrict themselves with all kinds of dresses and decorations; musicians and dancers crowd round them, and the principal of the thing is concealed within the shew, so that at last they become like the oracles of old, a mere mortal shut up in a box and cheating the people through its priests and processions and fine temples. They remind us of one of those little toys, which under pretence of being a piece of fruit, is nothing but a collection of husks and enclosures gradating at last into a pea, a pin's point, or nothing at all, to the great amusement of all little boys and girls. Such is the origin of these gaudy delusions called melodramas, which to the disgrace of the British stage are now taking place of the regular drama.

Two of these were produced on one night last week at the two theatres. The one at Drury-lane called the *Siege of St. Quintin or Spanish Heroism*, is under favour of the singers and the decorators, the production of Mr. Theodore Hook; the other, called the *Exile*, of Mr. Reynolds. Of the former of these gentlemen I had been willing to think, that he was a young man of promise who

had become prematurely intimate with bad dramatists and other retainers of a theatre, and who had indulged himself in their style of *getting up* plays and puns from thoughtlessness, or a desire to distinguish himself among those whom he thought distinguished, or

All for fear the knaves should call him fool,

Some men swear and talk nonsense for this reason, and others may certainly write nonsense, especially when the trade of folly is considered lucrative. The evidently temporary though laudable intention of the *Siege of St. Quintin or the Spanish Patriots*, as it was originally called, made me rather fearful for it's literary intentions, but then I considered the inspiration of the subject and hoped that a young man, with all his opportunities about him, might have spirit enough to follow the example of another young dramatist, Mr. Kenny, and endeavour to produce something that might revive an honourable taste. The new piece however is so destitute of all literary spirit, of all original or sound ambition in the drama, and of all that renders an author's name independent and respectable, that if ever Mr. Hook had any talents that could be spoiled, they are totally spoiled already, though I begin to suspect that his vanity is the quintessence of all his genius.

The principal scene is laid before the town of St. Quintin in the time of Philip the Second of Spain, who with the assistance of the English beat the French at the siege of that place. The Spaniards and English are represented as all virtuous men and great patriots of course, while the French leader is painted *a la Napoleon*, a terrible, bloody-minded, tyrannical, and remorseless fellow. This distribution of character, however, is a little unlucky in point of historical fact, and with the exception of *English assistance*, nothing could be worse chosen to represent the different situation of France and Spain than this period of history. Henry the Second, at that time King of France, was an excellent prince, of a character the very reverse of Bonaparte, while Philip the Second, was a sullen, superstitious, and sanguinary tyrant, ambitious in the midst of monkish devotion, and as fond of burning heretics as our Queen Mary his wife; not content with tyrannizing in Spain, he inflamed the temper of that wretched woman against her own subjects, and threatened the English under her successor with an invasion that was to destroy all the Protestants in the country, so that we have great reason indeed to hold up his ambitious designs to the admiration of our country, and to talk of patriots in Spain during an age, when the word *liberty* would have sent a man to the stake. If Mr. Hook was compelled to violate the truth of history in order to introduce the English into Spain, he had much better have turned the fable upon them, and made them assist the Spaniards against the Moors, who waged a war of extermination like the modern French, and who would have afforded allusions much more delicate in a Sadler's Wells point of view, and quite as strong as his dramatic Frenchmen, who are like their posterity in nothing but name.

The characters, dialogue, and turns of incident present us with as little new furniture as the theatre itself. They are of a most respectable antiquity. The tricks of *Tekeli*, of the *Fortress*, and of the French pieces of intrigue, such as getting out of prison by false passes, disguises, and fairly playing about the porter at the gate without detection, are transplanted in all their natural beauty into the *Siege of St. Quintin*.—Then for characters we have *Tekeli* himself in the disguise of a man of the name of *Egmont*, a sentimental lady or two, a pathetic little boy who in the midst of the battle struggles with *two men* for a standard, and a blundering Irishman, who like all other Irishmen, acts the part of a second Perillus, and makes bulls of brass, for no other purpose but to put us to the torture and make us roar. This gentleman talks of Welshmen, Scotchmen, Irishmen, and *all other* Englishmen:—that is a specimen of *his* manner. The sentimental gentlemen tell us that freemen cannot be conquered, that ambition is a horrid vice, and that the *patriot breast which*, &c. &c. This is a specimen of *theirs*. It was like a meeting with all your old acquaintances:—How d'ye do, my boy of bulls?—How are you, the-man-who?—Ha, Patriot Breast, are you there?—It is therefore totally needless to criticise the actors. Every thing was old, even the things incidental to the piece, such as the fightings and the frays, which were exactly copied from the Circus, and the things *not* incidental to the piece, such as the duet of

Deserted by the waning moon,

which was beautifully sung by two boys, pupils of Mr. Corri, from what motive however I could not discover, unless it was because there was a moon in the scene, though it is most likely that the good-natured luminary rose on purpose for the young gentlemen. The most original character in the piece was one which had very little to do; it was a second Tyrtæus, a minstrel, who animated the soldiers to battle by his songs, a very proper method of introducing Braham, who when he is not "most musical" is "most melancholy." Two songs were introduced in this character; one of them began like the words of the old ballad—

Softly blow the evening breezes, &c.

the other, with a variation of Spaniards for Scots, was an entire copy of Burns's divine production—

Scots, wha hae wi' Wallace bled,

and was sung with a fine fermenting enthusiasm worthy of it's author. I had almost forgotten however one originality, which is claimed for Mr. Hook's drama. Mr. Sheridan, not Thomas Sheridan the author of *Caractacus*, but Sheridan the author of the *Rivals* and the *School for Scandal*, is reported to have assisted Mr. Hook in some of his dialogue or his characters, some say in the above-mentioned Irishman!! *O Dea Fides*. If Mr. Hook means to say that there is any thing new, or entertaining, or any way witty in this Irishman, a man might as well introduce to me the oldest and dullest of my acquaintance and say, "Mr. Examiner—allow me—a gentleman you never saw before, one of the pleasantest creatures breathing, and vastly like Sheridan!" I am afraid this is like the *Tale of a Tub*, in which *Lord Peter* sets a crust before his brothers and persuades them it is mutton, beef, custard, and plum-pudding: one of them, however, ventured to remonstrate at first, and said he begged to see *the mutton his Lordship spoke of*, and that he never saw a slice of meat so nearly resembling

a cut from a twelve-penny loaf; and the other grew angry and swore that whatever his Lordship might say about mutton, it appeared to his eyes, nose, and teeth to be nothing but a crust of bread. We may say precisely the same thing to the author of the present piece, and beg to see that same SHERIDAN *he speaks of*, since to *our* eyes and ears and comprehensions, it seems nothing but HOOK or DIBDIN. If Mr. SHERIDAN has written a single dialogue, or half a one, or a quarter, or any at all, it is indeed original for him, for I am sure he never wrote so before. Blessed age! when it would be as original for our young dramatists to write wittily, as it is for our old ones to write nonsense. If SHERIDAN has written any thing for Mr. HOOK, peace be to his intellect; the spirit, the essence, and the sweet smelling savour are gone; it is a *mortuum caput* indeed; and I can only assure Mr. HOOK, that he would highly oblige the public by producing a specimen or two of the assistance of the celebrated dramatist, since, without joking, it would be a perfect curiosity, and we might admire this last relique of Mr. SHERIDAN's head as we do the skull of OLIVER CROMWELL, or any other dry bone that was once full of genius, but is now fit for nothing but the grave.

Hamlet.—(Taking up the scull of Yorick.)—This!

Clown.—E'en that.

Hamlet.—Alas, poor Yorick!—I knew him, Horatio; a fellow of infinite jest, of most excellent fancy.—Where be your gibes now? your gambols? your songs? *your flashes of merriment, that were wont to set the table on a roar? Not one now, to mock your own beginning? quite chop fallen?*—Pah!—[*Throws down the scull.*]—To what base uses we may return, Horatio!

KING'S THEATRE.

Mr. REYNOLDS, in the Preface to his last work, told the public that he knew he wrote bad plays. What the public may think of this compliment, or how his old friends may feel at being thus contradicted, I know not, but it is nevertheless a piece of sound self-knowledge. His present piece however, the *Exile*, is a much more interesting production than the *Siege*. The principal plot, which he has done honour to his taste and his feeling in selecting for the stage, is taken from Madame COTTIN's charming novel of *Elizabeth or the Exiles of Siberia*, which has all the strength of Madame DE STAEL without her pruriency and innovating boldness, and all the delicacy of SAINT PIERRE and Madame GENLIS without the slightest tinge of their affectation. It relates the adventures of a young girl, who according to Madame COTTIN did *in fact* go 800 miles from Siberia to Moscow to solicit the pardon of her banished father, an exploit, which if we consider the distance and horrors of the road and the delicacy which such a mind must possess, forms an era in the history of human virtue. This story however, which in the hands of a man of genius might have formed a noble play and which Mr. REYNOLDS himself with his own serious powers might have rendered an excellent afterpiece, he has injured by a mean and farcical underplot in order to lengthen it out into a melodrama as long as a play. I must protest at all times against this innovation on the independence of the regular drama, and I trust the independent periodical works will take severer notice of it than they have done. In the whole piece Mr. REYNOLDS has very little merit but that of choosing the principal incidents and sentiments of Madame COTTIN's story. His underplot, which introduces a busy servant, as usual, for FAWCETT, and an awkward Narcissus, of course for LISTON, who is a caricature upon travellers, is remarkable for nothing but it's common-place whim and it's unseasonable interruptions of the main story, which the author has unaccountably finished at the end of the second act. It would have been better I think, as he does not care for dramatic rules, to have made more of the underplot at the beginning or in the middle of his play, and to have finished with the great interest at the conclusion. I am not fond of criticising rhymes, but when there is no poetry I may be excused, and when a man writes double rhymes, he evidently wishes to recommend them to your notice; now Mr. REYNOLDS should learn that a double or even triple rhyme differs in the exactness of it's *first* syllable only, and that *slow-fall and snow-ball* are no double rhymes, and *Governor and Traveller* no rhyme at all, triple, single, or any way. He should take a lesson from BUTLER or SWIFT—ex. gra.

With stores of deletery med'cines
Which whosoever took is dead since.

The following extract from lines written by SWIFT in his literary dotage, is a perfect specimen of the double rhyme:—

This night I came home with a very cold dew sick;
But I hope I shall ne'er be, like you, of a shrew sick,
Who often has made me, by looking ascue, sick.

Admire the great comic writer learning to rhyme.

The coronation scene of the Empress ELIZABETH had a good effect, because its costume of the various nations was generally correct, and there is something to learn on these occasions. Mrs. SAINT LEGER in *Elizabeth* appeared to better advantage than I ever saw her. Her size and shape were at once sufficiently potent and dignified for a Russian Empress, such as we conceive CATHARINE the Second to have been, and she delivered her edicts from her throne in an authoritative voice very skilfully subdued. Mrs. H. JOHNSTON I never see in any character of female delicacy, without wishing for Mrs. H. SIDDONS. Mrs. JOHNSTON's manners are too theatrically vehement for a character of artless dignity, and when she wishes to look reproachful, she is apt to look a little too vixenish. Mr. MAZZINGHI's music, though pleasing enough, was not so original as might have been expected, and the overture, which was intended I suppose to be adapted to the feelings of the story, was rather too full of starts and surprises, of halting and rushing forward. This is more like the sudden conceits of BEETHOVEN than the surprise and lofty ardour of HAYDN. INCLEDON had a song or two, but his voice, though still strong and animated, begins to shew the feebleness of years, and trips a step or two occasionally both in ascending and descending. The musical honours of the piece certainly belong to Mrs. DICKONS, who sung an ironical bravura at the beau traveller with infinite skill, taste, and vivacity, though if there was any defect, it was an occasional vehemence in her attitudes and trippings somewhat too nearly approaching to a copy of Signora STORACE. An imitation of that vivacious actress would be well

enough, but for the sake of the admirers of female delicacy, let us have no decided copy.

Mr. Young performed the part of the hero with a most unaffected vigour. There is a chasteness in the tragedy of this gentleman, which is equally removed from the precise affectation of Mr. Kemble and the loose violence of Ellistron; and the manager should be ashamed of his own feelings in thus thrusting him into a comparatively insignificant part in a half pantomime. The disguise, by the bye, which the author has given this character, is not well defined: he puts on a turban and a dark face, but he is first called a Moor, then an Indian, then a black,—personages, all three, of very different dresses and complexions.—Why not have made him at once a Tartar, from some distant province, with a yellow face and a thick beard, that would have disguised him quite as well or better than a dark face and a pair of thin hanging mustachios? I doubt whether a Moor or an Indian would not provoke too much curiosity among the Siberian savages.

Upon the whole, it does not seem that the present state of the drama will last a great while longer. Mr. Reynolds has already dropped from tragedy to comedy, from comedy to afterpiece, from afterpiece to melo-drama, and I know not at what straw he will catch in his next fall. If honest critics should produce better times, I sincerely advise the whole dramatic corps to march off to Sadler's Wells. Mr. Reynolds one would willingly keep for a farce or two, but Mr. Charles Dibdin confines himself to that theatre, and I should be glad to discover what shadow of superiority Mr. Thomas Dibdin, Mr. Theodore Hook, or the other dramatists, possess over that gentleman. It would be the wisest step they ever took in their lives. Their melo-dramas would there be converted into local and dramatic proprieties, their ignorance into good sense, their puns, tricks, and blunders into something eminently facetious; and who would not admire Mr. Dibdin or Mr. Hook under all these amazing transformations?

☞

FINE ARTS.

ROYAL ACADEMY.

As the object of our strictures on the Arts is their benefit, we will stand perpetual guard before the Temple of Genius, and will always have as vigilant an eye to detect and expose whatever retards, as to observe and recommend whatever promotes the advancement of the Arts. As nothing is more detrimental to them than the injustice of their professors to each other, arising from jealousy, self interest, and undue partialities, we cannot omit stating a most disgraceful transaction of the Royal Academy last Monday, in their election of Associates. It was an outrage on common justice, it was an outrage on common decorum, and above all, it was an outrage on the Arts themselves. There were four vacant Associateships, and, though there are twice the number of candidates who would occupy those vacancies with credit to the Academy, it unjustly determined and did actually choose but two. Insult was added to this injustice in the choice of one of the new Associates, Mr. —— Smirke, son of the excellent Painter of that name. It was unjust and insulting to the Candidates who are *Painters* and *Sculptors*, as this young gentleman is an *Architect*, and consequently ranks below them in his profession, and had been a Candidate only *a few days*, while many of his superior rivals had been Candidates for *many years!* One of them, Mr. Devis, who is a Corinthian column in the Temple of British Art, should long ago have been an Academician, in preference to several who are his inferiors in Painting, and who, when a boy studying in the Royal Academy, carried off the first prize from several of his now *nominal* superiors. Mr. —— Smirke is reported to have brought home from his travels a mind enriched with a knowledge of the exalted Architecture of Greece and Rome, and to be a young man of genius. It *may* be so; but still there are no specimens of his Art before the Academy, sufficient to justify this election, and there is not one before the public, to shew that he is an Architect, while the other Candidates have proved themselves to the world professionally excellent, and "worked their way," as the Free Masons express it, to the rank of "a Master." At best he is

"A doubtful name,
"As yet unsettled in the rank of fame."

But were he even an acknowledged Master, and had reared the structure of his fame, his election is a manifest injustice as well as an affront to the Professors of the superior Arts of Painting and Statuary, unless his talents rivalled those of a Wren or a Jones. The Electors of Mr. Smirke outraged common decorum, for gentlemanly feelings alone, independently of respect for the superior dignity of Painting and Statuary, should have prompted them to have united to Mr. Drummond, who certainly merits his elevation, some of the other Candidates. Setting aside the consideration of unfairness, these Royal Academy Professors of the *Polite* Arts, acted a very ungracious, a very ungentlemanly part. There could be no becoming sentiment of delicacy or propriety in their cold-blooded neglect of such long admired abilities as those of Devis and Allen. Messrs. Singleton, M. C. Wyatt, Ashley, and Joseph, were all to be mortified rather than Mr. Farington and his trained bands should be opposed in their wishes. The marble which employs the grace-creating chissels of the Candidates Bacon and Turnerelli is not more callous than men who are capable of turning their backs on the superior claims of those Artists, or who could evince such insensibility to the amenities of R. R. Reinagle and Arnald. It is not surprising that the Academy Electors have so nice a sense of the *dignity* of their body in not "making it too cheap," when we find that they are taking for their highly finished model a certain military Chief, who has been long the conversation of the the town and country at large for his elevating young *noviciates* above the laureled heads of *veterans*. Alas! in either cases similar mischiefs ensue:—the ardor of genius is chilled, the energies of mind are palsied, success is partial and unproductive, desert sickens at neglect, and the honour and the prosperity of the people are sacrificed to intriguers. The honours of the Royal Academy are some of the

stimuli of its students; but how are these deadened by the cold neglect of the Academy, to older and more meritorious claims?

We are pleased to learn that this shameful proceeding of the Academy was not the unanimous will of its Members. Mr. Shee was eloquent on his motion for filling up all the vacancies, and he was manfully seconded by Sir F. Bourgeois. It is to be hoped that the friends of justice, decorum, and the Arts, may be more successful in the ensuing election for an Anatomical Professor.

R. H.

CITY.

LORD MAYOR'S DAY.

"Sweep on, ye fat and greasy Citizens."—SHAKESPEAR.

On Wednesday this annual festival took place. The weather was appropriate,—rather thick and foggy, but this did not prevent a number of little girls and boys crowding the windows to see the show, which was in the usual gingerbread stile, with the novelty of the revival of the man in armour,—a guardsman dressed in a complete suit of a Knight in the time of William the Conqueror. The procession by water *was equally interesting* to the spectators, though the Citizens must have had a better relish for this part of the show, as the barges were loaded with cakes and wine, for the laudable purpose of keeping out the fog, which is found to be very injurious to the brains of an Alderman. On the arrival of the procession at the Exchequer Court, Westminster, "the RECORDER (as the *Morning Post* says) in a very forcible and elegant speech, presented the LORD MAYOR, and descanted with great ability on the *integrity*, *independence*, and *gentlemanly* qualities of his Lordship!!!"—To which "the Lord CHIEF BARON replied with *much elegance*, impressing his Lordship with the *very important duties* which would devolve on him."

They then proceeded to the Court of King's Bench. On entering, the lawyers were put to the grin by the following merry circumstance:—Mr. CASBAD had been making a motion for a new trial respecting the keep of an *old Mare*. While the trumpets were sounding, he exclaimed in the voice of a Stentor, "*the Mare in question, my Lord*,"—which accidental pun was answered by a shout of laughter:—nor was the mirth of the lawyers decreased when his Lordship retired, for the Counsel resumed his speech with much gravity,—"*My Lord, the expence of the keep of this old Mare*," &c.

The procession returned to Guildhall, at which place, about four o'clock, Miss FLOWER, eldest daughter of his Lordship, arrived as Lady Mayoress, who is said to be both young and beautiful. She was dressed very elegantly:—her head was adorned with a diamond tiara and ostrich feather; the hair secured by a superb diamond comb; her necklace, bracelets, and armlets, were of exquisite diamonds; her dress was white crape over white satin, embroidered with silver oak border, white satin train, and satin shoes embroidered with silver.

Some people had thought, that the Citizens, on account of the *little tiff* about the Cintra Convention, would not have invited the Members of an Administration they had so recently touched up with their Resolutions of censure: but these fastidious gentlemen had undoubtedly calculated without their host, for his Lordship, who is a wholesale dealer in butter, cheese, and bacon, and moreover a Government *Contractor*, could not possibly avoid inviting his best friends. Besides, who could suppose that politics could for a moment be thought about, when a *feast* was in contemplation? Such objectors cannot be *good Citizens*, or they could never have imagined that the rights of the City and the honour of the country were to be put in competition with turtle soup and venison pasties.

Almost all the Ministers were present. Of the Opposition Members were observed the Duke of NORFOLK, Lord ERSKINE, Mr. SHERIDAN, &c. The Spanish, Swedish, and Neapolitan Envoys were also of the party. After dinner (we need not say it was a sumptuous one) the health of the "best of Sovereigns" was drank with three time three, &c.—but what surprised the company not a little, was the toast given by the LORD MAYOR,—"The present Ministry; thanks to them for their meritorious exertions!"—Poor SHERIDAN almost turned *pale* on drinking it; and his Grace of NORFOLK, though not remarkable for the slenderness of his make, looked as if he would have vanished through the key-hole. Every one must allow, however, that the LORD MAYOR conducted himself like a Contractor on the occasion.

At nine o'clock the Ladies retired to the Grand Council Chamber, where the Ball was opened by Alderman AINSLEY and Miss FLOWER. The dancing continued till a late hour in the morning.

Mr. Alderman FLOWER, the present worthy Chief Magistrate, is a remarkable instance of the advantages of patient industry in business. He is of humble origin, and commenced his career in life as shop-boy to a dealer in cheese. From this honest employment he gradually advanced in life till he became a dealer, a Victualling Contractor, and lastly, LORD MAYOR of London! Hear this, ye cleaners of counters and bearers of bacon!—look to the civic chair, and follow the noble example of your Chief Magistrate.

JANUARY AND MAY.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE EXAMINER.

MR. EDITOR,

I cannot but applaud the spirit which suggested the remarks in your last number, on the late marriage of Mr. Churchwarden Marriott with Miss Barnes:—they no doubt originated in the purest moral principle; and I shall be happy if your vigorous remarks tend, in the least degree, to render such unequal and unnatural unions less frequent.

But however I may admire your motives, I must protest against your indiscriminate censure of the *Parents* of the young lady, who are not so blameable as you may think them, and whom in this letter I will endeavour to defend.

The parents of the young lady are not only respectable, but have till now been considered as beyond the reach of scandal. The *old man* (Mr. Churchwarden Marriott I mean) is also a reputable character, and, being possessed of a pretty snug fortune, is, as it is

called in the City, a good man; and, although he had lately given up the *King's Head**, his loyalty has never been doubted. I must freely confess that I never myself perceived that Mr. M. possessed any *peculiarly captivating personal qualities*; but Miss Barnes it appears, thinking differently, actually fell in love with him! and as

"Love is lord of all, and is in all the same,"

we need not much wonder that Mr. M. loved too! The attachment therefore was mutual!

To separate doating lovers is always an undertaking as dangerous as it is difficult. When the parents of the young lady therefore were first made acquainted with their daughter's *extraordinary* passion, they naturally became alarmed, and employed every lenient means in their power to guard against an *elopement!*

However ridiculous this fear may seem to you, Mr. Editor, it certainly was not without foundation, for you must allow that in your capacity as Editor of a Public Newspaper, many elopements equally ridiculous and unnatural have come within your observation. There is every reason then to presume that had the parents refused their consent to the match, this last expedient would have been resorted to.

Quid non mortalia pectora cogis
Amor?

But surely the feelings of a parent ought to be considered, and it is not every father that can thwart the inclinations of a beloved daughter, nor can every mother check the passionate ebullitions of love in a favourite child. The custom of locking up daughters, to prevent their marrying contrary to their parents' wishes, is, I trust, long since abolished; and unless you intend to revive this custom,—unless you mean to espouse the compulsory motives that gave rise to it,—surely you cannot with propriety blame the parents for permitting their daughter to marry a man, on whom her affections were strongly and unalterably fixed.

I am therefore bold enough to defend those parents, whom you so decidedly and severely condemn. Indeed I am induced to admire their *prudence*: they certainly had a difficult task to perform; they had to extricate themselves from surrounding difficulties, and I think you will eventually allow that of two evils they have chosen the least. Considering the danger of their daughter *breaking her heart*, in case the object of her affections was denied to her,—considering also the exposure and consequent disgrace that would attach to an elopement, which it is very probable would have taken place had parental authority separated the two lovers,—and placing these considerations in opposition to the mere risk of astonishing (or perhaps even offending) a few friends, or affording a laugh to the public in general, I really think, Mr. Editor, they have gratified their daughter at a very trivial expence, and that they therefore do not merit that poignant satire which you have so unmercifully bestowed upon them. I am, respectfully, Sir, your humble Servant, HENRICUS.

St. Dunstan's in the West, 9th Nov. 1808.

* This is the same Mr. M. who was partner with Mr. Wiltshire, and kept the King's Head Tavern, in the Poultry, which concern he has lately relinquished.

MIDDLESEX MEETING.

THE CONVENTION.

Mr. Sheriff SMITH stated, that the Meeting had been called in consequence of a Requisition signed by several Freeholders. The Requisition being read,

Mr. CLIFFORD observed, that the Freeholders who signed the Requisition, had employed him to move the Address which was intended to be submitted to the Meeting. In that Address, it had been their study to steer perfectly clear of party, and of any appearance of prejudging the question. The hopes and expectations of the nation had been disappointed. The object was, to know the causes of that disappointment, and to prevent, as far as it depended upon them, the occurrence of an event of a similar nature. The design was, to present an Address on this subject to the King, couched in the most respectful and loyal language, but without losing sight of the undoubted rights of the people *(loud applause.)* This being a plain, full, and concise statement of their object, he did not feel it necessary to enter into any farther observations at that stage of the business. Mr. Clifford then read the Address, which was as follows:—

"TO THE KING'S MOST EXCELLENT MAJESTY.

"We, your Majesty's loyal Subjects, the Freeholders of the County of Middlesex, feeling in common with the rest of our countrymen, deep regret and indignation at the late events in Portugal, which have disappointed our most sanguine hopes and our best founded expectations, pray your Majesty to take into your consideration this our most Loyal Statement and Petition,

"We prejudge the case of no man, but we feel under such circumstances of national disappointment, that to demand a strict, a rigorous, and an impartial inquiry into all its causes is not only an immutable principle of justice, but has been the invariable practice of our ancestors.

"Without such an inquiry, the guilty cannot be fairly brought to punishment, nor can the characters of the innocent, who may be suspected, be effectually vindicated and restored.

"When we reflect that our armies and our fleets are composed of men of the same description, and drawn from the same sources; that our engagements at sea always shed new lustre on the navy, and always add to the nation a security, while our victories on land are generally unavailing, and often lead to disgrace, we cannot persuade ourselves that the whole blame in the late transactions is attributable to our Commanders.

"We suspect that it may be owing to some radical defect in our military system, or to the incapacity or misconduct of those by whose counsels your Majesty's land forces are directed, and to whose judgment and discretion the management of the army is entrusted: such defect, incapacity, or misconduct cannot be remedied by a Court Martial, or by any Military Court of Inquiry.

"We therefore pray your Majesty not only to order Courts Martial to be held on the conduct of all the Officers who advised or signed either the Armistice or Convention in Portugal, but to recommend to the Parliament to institute such a public and effectual investigation into all the causes and circumstances of these transactions, as may lead to the adoption of such measures and salutary reforms as secure the punishment of the guilty, however high their station, and prevent the recurrence of similar calamities.

"And we assure your Majesty, that whoever advised you to rebuke the Lord Mayor and Corporation of the City of London, for their late loyal Petition, acted in defiance of the principles which seated your Majesty's Family on the Throne, and in contempt and violation of the undoubted rights and liberties of your people, asserted at all times by our ancestors, and finally secured to us at the Revolution by the Bill of Rights."

Mr. REDHEAD YORKE said, that the Address proposed was a departure from the objects stated in the Requisition. It gave the King a lecture on the constitution of the army

and called for an overthrow of our whole military system. He detested the Convention, but he could distinguish between a Commander in battle, and one who acted merely as a negociator. In passing the Address they would act as mere partizans. The City of London Address was also a party work, because they had suffered two months to elapse after the Gazette announcement of the Convention, and then solicited an inquiry that was known would take place. The proceedings at Westminster were also party ones, relating to points irrelevant to it's Address, such as Parliamentary Reform, Abolition of Sinecures, &c.—*(A roar of disapprobation, and cry of order.)*—He opposed the Address as superfluous, demanding an inquiry which had been ordered. He proposed an Amendment, "thanking his Majesty for his declaration that an inquiry should be instituted into the causes of the Convention of Cintra, and for his *mild* and *just* rebuke which he had given to the City of London."—*(A loud and continued roar of laughter.)*

Mr. Sheriff HUNTER.—"If you are *really serious*, Mr. Yorke, I beg you will put your Amendment in writing.

Mr. Yorke gave it in writing thus—"That this County, happy under his Majesty's Councils, and the equal administration of justice, begged leave to thank his Majesty for the disposition he had manifested to institute an inquiry into the causes that led to the Convention of Cintra, which had disappointed the hopes and expectations of the nation." He omitted the *mild* and *just* rebuke.

After much lapse of time, a Mr. WELLS said that he really seconded it most heartily.—*(A laugh.)*

Mr. WAITHMAN was surprized Mr. Yorke should have treated that as an act of his Majesty which the Constitution pronounced an act of the Minister. As to the conduct of the City of London, he had been correct neither in point of fact or argument, for on the first Court-day after the Convention was known, he (Mr. Waithman) had delivered in a Requisition for a Meeting on the subject, and a Court assembled for the express purpose, about a week after. The Corporation had gone up with their Address before it was known that an inquiry was to be instituted. The imputation was therefore unjust. He asked whether the gentleman could produce a precedent of such an answer to the Address?

Mr. YORK.—Yes, in Lord Clarendon's History.

Mr. WAITHMAN.—Well, if there was a precedent, he was sure it must have been in the times of the Charles's. *(Loud applause.)* There had been nothing like it since the Revolution. Ungracious answers had been given to various *Remonstrances* of the City, but none like the last. It was for them therefore to consider whether the answer to the city was of such a nature as to make it unnecessary for other places to address his Majesty. After the rebuke to the City, he immediately suspected that the Officers commanding the Expedition were not so faulty as others, and we waited to see whether those who might probably be the guilty persons would institute a *due* inquiry. At the very time the Corporation was at Court with the Address, the Officer who signed the Armistice was graciously received, and particularly noticed by Ministers.—*(Applause.)* Was it then to be expected that a *due* inquiry would be instituted by men who acted thus? Had not the Corporation of London been always loyal and *most confiding?* Often had motions for petitions been rejected there, on the ground that Ministers and Parliament would institute the proper inquiries, and though the nation anxiously looked for them they never took place. He might be told, perhaps, of Whitelocke, and two or three other instances; but the great expeditions, such as that to the Helder, had never been gone into. But even if the answer had been most gracious, yet it would become the County to present an Address, for if, under so great a failure, they were to submit in silence, they would be unworthy of their ancestors, and of the name of Englishmen.—*(Hear! hear!)* He could not help observing, that something more was required than a Court of Inquiry or a Court Martial on the Officers. Our sailors and solders were composed of the same excellent stuff. How was it then that the results of their exertions were so different? There must be defects in our military system, in the manner of appointing the Officers—*and if any one wanted to be satisfied of this, he need only look into Major Hogan's Pamphlet.* It was necessary then to go up and call for a Meeting of Parliament. But he might be told that there was no occasion to assemble Parliament till Ministers wanted money. They had been told this by the Ministerial Prints, so that it appeared that Parliament was considered as of no other use than to put its hands into the pockets of the people!—*(Applause.)* Parliament was not to be assembled till money was wanted, and if no money was ever wanted, we should, perhaps, never see a Parliament again. There seemed, therefore, to be something in what an individual had said, that Parliament only met to impose additional burthens on the people.—*(Applause.)*

Major CARTWRIGHT said that so far was an address from being unnecessary on account of the answer given to the City of London, that it was even more necessary than before. For when a Minister advised his Majesty to rebuke the people in the exercise of a right, the county ought to go up, if it was only to reprobate such conduct. A Court of Inquiry was not known in the Law of England. It had only of late been called a Court, and it was so called in the case of Sir John Mordaunt, who said that he came before it *voluntarily*, the Board having *no right* to call him. This Court had been compared to a Grand Jury. It was no more like it than a house was like the moon. A Grand Jury was sworn, which this Court was not, though this was said to be an improvement.—*(A laugh.)* The witnesses were sworn before a Grand Jury, while this Court could not examine upon oath.—This too would be called an improvement! A Grand Jury was a Constitutional Body, before which the accused must come before trial. That was not the case with this Court. When Sir Robert Calder, a most able and judicious officer—*(Loud applause)*—who took two ships of the line, which were not dressed out with colours flying, to be restored to the enemy—*(Applause)*—but brought into British ports as prizes, and their crews lodged in a British prison—when he was tried, there was no word of a Court of Inquiry to protect him. He had no great connections, nor twelve votes in the House of Commons. Two Englishmen have lately been sent to the distant Gaols of Dorchester and Gloucester. While such practices are afloat, it became the people to watch with anxiety their rights and privileges. The Grand Jury was a constitutional protection for innocence. This Court of Inquiry was but *a ministerial innovation, for the protection of guilt.—(Applauses.)*

Mr. CLIFFORD said, that the leading feature in the amendment, that of the equal administration of justice, he regarded as very curious and ridiculous, coming from a man who had in his own person exhibited a proof of the unequal administration of justice in the country. This Gentleman had been illegally confined in a distant jail—the jail of Dorchester—he having been convicted of treason in the county of York. Having been thus illegally imprisoned, however, it appeared that on his coming out of prison Government had received this same Gentleman into their pay—that having been himself illegally punished for libelling Government, he had since been corruptly paid for libelling the People. The rebuke alluded to, as similar to that just given to the City, was in 1676, in the reign of Charles II. when Jeffreys was City Recorder.—But the consequence was, that the House of Commons came to an unanimous resolution, "That it is, and always has been, the right of the people of this country to state their grievances to his Majesty by way of Petition"—and lest this resolution should want the necessary publicity, it was immediately afterwards, for the first time, ordered, that the Votes of the House of Commons be printed. Next

satisfied even with the publicity thus given to the right of the subject to petition; it was introduced into and formed a part of the Bill of Rights.

Mr. MELLISH said, that nothing but party actuated the conduct of the Meeting; (*hisses;*) because it prejudged the question. The Gentleman who opened the business stated, that inquiry was necessary to prevent the recurrence of similar circumstances. Was not this prejudging the question? (*Contemptuous laughter.*) Was that not as much as to say there was something wrong—that the Convention had not been properly entered into?. (*Laughter continued;*) It would be time enough to address his Majesty when it should be seen that the Court of Inquiry would not do its duty.

Mr. WAITHMAN said, that after seeing that no due enquiry had been made in the case of Lord Melville and others, it was his firm belief that no due enquiry was to be expected in the present instance; if Government was not driven into it. Mr. Yorke had drawn his precedents from violations of the Constitution in the good days of Charles II, but forgot that important period the Revolution, when it was declared not merely to be the right of the people to approach the Throne with their requests; but to insist to be heard:—Any repulse therefore was an attempt to deprive us of the rights established to us at the Revolution, and to drive us back to those good days of Charles I. He trusted, however, that we would not prove so totally unworthy of our ancestors, from whom we derived such inestimable privileges; but that we would shew, though we might not possess courage enough to have enforced rights which we had lost; that we still had resolution to maintain those which we continued to possess.—(*Loud applauses throughout.*)

Mr. BYNG gave his decided support to Mr. Clifford's address *in toto*. Disgraceful and calamitous as was the Convention, he should count it glorious compared with tame submission to the uncalled-for and *unconstitutional* rebuke!—(*Loud and repeated applauses.*)—If we tamely submitted to it we agreed to abandon our dearest rights—our liberties were gone for ever!—(*Reiterated applauses.*)—The Trial by Jury, and free access at all times to the Throne, were the foundations of our liberties, and our being as a free people. Our ancestors had bravely and dearly purchased for us these privileges, and we must not, we could not, with honour, consent to abandon, or lose sight of them, even for a moment!—(*Applauses.*) Would to God that the friends of liberty would defend their rights as vigilantly as the Ministers and their followers and servants watch over the Prerogative!—(*Loud applauses.*)

The Amendment was negatived, and the Address carried by an immense majority.

Mr. CLIFFORD moved, that when it is delivered to the Secretary of State, the Sheriffs shall request to know when his Majesty will be pleased to receive the same, and that Lord Hawkesbury's answer be published in the newspapers, for that not one of ninety addresses relative to Lord Melville had been presented to the King, Lord Hawkesbury being then as now, Principal Secretary of State for the Home Department. The motion was carried.

NAVAL INTELLIGENCE.

Copy of a letter from a Seaman on board the Africa, relative to the action between that ship and the Danish gun-boats.

"*His Majesty's ship Africa, off Copenhagen, Oct. 20, 1808.*

"MY DEAR FRIEND,—I offer sincere thanks to Almighty God for his infinite mercy in preserving my life this day, during a severe action with the Danish gun-boats. We sailed from Carlscrona about a week since, with a convoy under our protection of near 200 sail of merchantmen for Malmo. Our convoy got into the wished-for port, except one taken, and three on shore, which were burnt by our people. The Africa kept between the convoy and the Danes. About one o'clock it was quite calm. We saw the Danish gun-boats rowing towards us, to the number of 32 boats: when a large ship is becalmed, she is quite unmanageable, a mere log on the water, which was our case. The Danes took the opportunity to come on our quarters and bows, and endeavoured to rake us. About half-past two o'clock they came within gun-shot of us, and we opened a brisk fire on them. These boats have, in a calm, much superiority over a ship; by means of their oars, they can pull round a ship to any direction, and being small, comparatively only like a speck on the water, they are no mark to aim at like a large ship. They amounted, in all, as far as we can learn, to about 1920 men, and 123 guns; 32's and 42's, with swivels. To do them justice, they shewed much courage in coming near us, for our shot went far over them. Their grape-shot could only be likened to showers of stones or dust thrown into the ship by shovels. The screen round me was soon knocked away entirely by splinters. At half past seven the enemy began to pull away from us. The Danes suffered extremely by our fire; and several boats were sunk. Some had not more than five men left in them. The darkness of the night finished the business. We have eight men killed outright, and 18 wounded many badly. The total is 81. Our colours were twice shot away. The enemy supposing we had struck, huzzaed and pulled nearer; we huzzaed and pelted away at them. Our boats are shot all to pieces, an arm-chest on the poop blown to pieces by their shells; but thank God we beat them off. We suppose their loss in men must be three times greater than our's, considering their numbers; and from what those on our decks saw.—Those now in the ship, and who were in Lord Nelson's last action at Trafalgar, say, this surpassed it for hard fighting."

DOVER BOATMEN.

Mr. EDITOR.—I am a British Seaman, and I hope shall never disgrace the character by neglecting the duties of a man. I have heard that some lubberly scrub has overhauled my messmates, and set us down as a pack of rascals, who would take advantage of a shipmate in distress, and shark-like prey upon his necessities. I'll tell you what, Sir, we as much scorn to impose on the unfortunate as other men; we neither shrink from danger in the moment of peril, or forget the duties we owe to ourselves, our wives, and our children—we are prodigal of our lives, when to preserve a brother tar from shipwreck, there is a necessity to hazard them—let the Merchant and the Underwriters follow the same duty; let them only be just, and not cut adrift and oppose to the tempest of want the bark that has piloted them and theirs into the roadstead of security: and, Sir, if a combination is ever formed, it will be for the more effectual doing our duty—I don't know what your fair weather craft mean by combination,—our lawyer, who understands your lingo, tells me it means a muster of all hands to do something injurious to the good of our country!—What, Sir, because every mother's son of us feels that the starving policy of our employers has shut the locker of our supply, scarcely giving a dry biscuit for our labours, and we cry out because we are hurt, that we muster to resist them—why, Sir, if this lubber had ever been to sea he would have known better. Seamen are like the bark that bears them through the storm, and the rock that starts a timber injures the whole. I think, Sir, there is something like honesty in your paper, and perhaps its good character may obtain me a hearing.—Ask the Gentlemen at Lloyd's the following questions:—

Is there any obligation that one class of men should risk their lives and property to save another's from destruction, without an adequate compensation?

Is that a sufficient compensation that gives £40. in

twenty shares for the recovery of a ship and cargo, whose value is estimated at £60,000?

Ought the value of a man's service be estimated by the time he is actually employed, or the contingent circumstances of his employment?

Can a boatman, whose business is but for a season, bring up his family from the produce of his labours, if his service is estimated as a regular employment?

Do all the cases of distress among the shipping in the narrow part of the British Channel, afford to each boat's crew ten opportunities of profitable employment annually?

I think, Mr. Editor, that unless the British Merchant is changed from that character which one Sir Andrew Freeport bore among you, and degenerated into the selfish and unworthy trader, he will see in this reckoning I have kept, that, although the storm of passion has drifted us a little to leeward, we are nevertheless within hail; and it is his own fault if the log of his indiscretion should separate us by the want of a proper look out in his own duty.

Yours, &c. TOM TACKLE.

LAW.

COURT OF KING'S BENCH.

Thursday, Nov. 8.

DUKE OF SUSSEX.—WINTER *v.* MILES.

Mr. ATTORNEY GENERAL, Mr. GARROW, and Mr. CUMMING, shewed cause against a Rule *Nisi*, for a new trial in this action, which our readers will recollect was brought by the tailor of the Duke of Sussex against the Sheriff of Middlesex, for a false return upon an execution levied at Kensington Palace. The question in this action was, whether Kensington, being a Royal Palace, was not priviledged from the execution of legal process; and it was the verdict of the Jury in the affirmative of this that was now attempted to be set aside. It was proved at the trial, that although his present Majesty had never resided at Kensington Palace, yet the establishment was still his, and might still be commanded to receive him at a day's notice. The chaplain, housekeeper, deputy-housekeeper, gardener, and porter, were appointed and paid by him. There were still a regalia there and a state-bed, whenever his Majesty chose to make use of them. Mr. Attorney General contended, that Kensington House was a palace in point both of law and fact. The contrary of this in point of law was insisted by Mr. Maryatt at the trial; but Lord Ellenborough was of opinion, that if it ever had been declared a palace by proclamations issuing from thence, it was undoubtedly a palace. Mr. Attorney General, therefore, instanced the proclamation of the Prayer Books of the last reign, where the date of their patent would be found to run—"Given at our Court at Kensington," &c. But there was no doubt that it had been a palace, and the question was, whether it had discontinued to be one; there were still state apartments kept for his Majesty whenever he chose to come there; there were apartments, and there were guards regularly mounted; and if a palace were really kept ready to receive his Majesty, the privileges of that palace were not affected because it actually did not receive his Majesty.

Lord ELLENBOROUGH cited several cases in elucidation of this question; and seemed of opinion, that a palace continued to be royal, unless there were circumstances to discontinue it. After the death of the late King, its character of royalty continued, and the question was, had it been lost? If the palace had been dismantled, so as to render the King's habitation impossible, it would be another thing; and as to all the present occupiers of the palace, they were liable to be turned out to-morrow.

Mr. GARROW put the case on a level with Windsor Castle and St. James's Palace, and said that nobody would deny they were palaces because he did not see the flag flying upon the tower of the one, and because the King had not resided at the other for a long time. His Majesty enjoyed no security of his protection for a moment, if his presence was to be the only test: the cart that carried away goods from his palace might drive out at one gate as he drove in at another. What quantity of residence, Mr. GARROW would ask, constituted a palace? This could never be ascertained. The question of the fact was left to the Jury, and in his opinion they had found the truth.

Lord ELLENBOROUGH cited an Act of the 4th Henry VII. chap. 3, where a place of occasional use for the refreshment of the King, in passing to St. Paul's, was called a palace.

Mr. CUMMING instanced proclamations made by the present King, immediately after the death of the late, from Kensington Palace.

Mr. Serjeant WILLIAMS said, it was immaterial whether it was a palace or not; the question was, whether it was exempt from the execution of legal process. He urged that the King had never resided at Kensington with all his suite: as to the housekeeper that was there, till the King could dispose of the palace he must put somebody in it. Why were palaces exempt from the execution of legal process? Because of the King's dignity, and that no such disturbance might happen in his presence as could be occasioned by such execution. This argument could not hold, when it was admitted that, for a long reign of 48 years, the King had never resided there. The Learned Serjeant then cited all the parallel cases he could find, beginning with Coke's definitions of the word Court, in his Proem to the 4th Instit. and commented on them with much ingenuity.

Mr. MARYATT said, the question was, whether the privilege arose *propter reverentium loci aut personæ*; whether it was the spot or the person that was sacred: and the privilege evidently was instituted to prevent a disturbance to the Sovereign, and not to his deputy-housekeeper (for there was only a deputy-housekeeper to be found at the palace). There was a housekeeper at Newmarket-house and at the Cockpit; but nobody ever dreamt that those residences were palaces. There had been lately issued a proclamation from Cuffnells; but nobody supposed Mr. Rose's house was privileged from an execution. As to the guards that were mounted at Kensington, there were guards mounted at the Tower; and to talk of a preacher at Kensington Palace Chapel, at Whitehall there were two dozen. If the King left his palace with *an animus revertendi*, it was undoubtedly still a palace; but the Learned Counsel contended that the immunity ceased, when the reason for granting it ceased.

Lord ELLENBOROUGH.—"This is a question of interest and importance, and the Court will take some time to look into it. Does any one know, as a matter of information, whether process is executable in Holyrood-house?"

Mr. ATTORNEY GENERAL.—"No, my Lord, it is not; and this consideration has induced several persons to reside there."

Wednesday, Nov. 9.

——*v.* BAILEY AND THORNTON.

This cause stood for trial at the last Sittings for Guildhall. It was an action to recover penalties on the Statute of Usury, for near 80,000*l*. A motion was now made for leave to compound, by paying 3000*l*. to the King, and 2000*l*. to the plaintiff.

Leave was granted: but the Court suggested that it would be well that a rule should be made, compelling the defendant to give notice to the Treasury, that they might oppose the applicants, if they thought proper.

POLICE.

UNION-HALL.

A young woman, named Rebecca Gould, a servant at a house in Lambeth, appeared before the Magistrates to

answer a charge of suspicion of a foul crime, originating out of the following circumstances:—A young woman, who succeeded in the occupancy of an apartment in the house of a Mrs. Hancock, in which apartment she had a box, supposed to contain clothes and linen she had not immediate occasion for. Soon after her living there, she complained of an offensive smell, that continued; and further, she either heard or fancied she did, hideous noises. This was so often reiterated, that it was resolved to open the box, and as no key could be found to fit it, it was broke open, when to their surprise and astonishment, the body of an infant, apparently of twelve months, nearly in a dried state, presented itself;—the bowels had been taken out, and were in a woman's pocket—on lifting the body the head fell off. Suspicion fell upon the unhappy girl, who admitted it was hers; and said first she had it from her father and from her brother, but knew nothing of the contents. Under all the circumstances, Mr. EVANCE ordered her to safe custody, until the event of a Coroner's Inquest is known.

BOW-STREET.

On Thursday, Miss P. charged with robbing her maid-servant, attended with a number of friends and her Counsel, Mr. Gurney, who addressed the Magistrate at some length, urging the improbability of the charge, as his client was a lady of property. Mr. Gurney examined the girl, who said she had lived nearly six years with Miss P. and had saved the money now in question; but which she had kept a secret, because her mistress, who was always very backward in paying wages, would not have paid her had she supposed she had so much money by her. The girl acknowledged that she had said she could not swear her mistress had taken the money.—The girl accounted for her non-appearance on Monday, as she had been sent for by Mrs. Johnson, Matron of the Foundling Hospital, an acquaintance of her mistress, who pressed her not to appear against Miss P. The girl said she did not want to hurt her, she only wished to get her money and do what was proper. Mrs. Johnson said that if she did not appear against Miss P. the matter would drop, and that Miss P.'s friends would raise the money for her. The girl agreed not to attend, provided no harm came of it, which Mrs. Johnson assured her there would not. Miss P.'s cook took the girl in a coach to Mr. Smith, a chinaman in Tothill-street, Westminster, where they remained all day on purpose to avoid going to Bow-street. The girl, however, calling on Miss P.'s Attorney on Wednesday, to know if it was all settled, he told her she must attend at Bow-street on Thursday, which she did.

Mrs. Johnson attended, and confirmed the girl's account respecting the conversation she had with her: the girl had been brought up in the Foundling and Mrs. J. had recommended her to Miss P.

Mr. REID said that the girl had properly accounted for her absence, and that there was sufficient evidence to go to another tribunal.

Mr. Gurney applied for bail, which was allowed. Miss P. was bound in 200*l.* and four sureties in 50*l.* each.

MARLBOROUGH-STREET.

Yesterday, Patrick Mac Mahon, who was examined at the beginning of the last week on the charge of defrauding Colonel Greville of a chaise and harness, underwent a second examination. The prisoner requested that the room might be cleared on his first examination lest his character and that of other *gentlemen* should sustain injury by public report, but he did not succeed in stifling that report, which in this instance brought forth a host of fresh accusers, whose evidence developed such a daring system of villainy and fraud, which has seldom been heard of. The prisoner, it was most completely proved by several witnesses, was a partner in the fraudulent firm of Ryan and Co. No. 12, Sherborne-lane. The bills given by the prisoner for goods, &c. of almost every description, are incalculable, and most of them are for large sums of money. The plan resorted to generally was to purchase horses, chaise, &c. of gentlemen, coach-makers, and others, and the animals and articles so purchased, were immediately sold at repositories in half a dozen together. It was also contrived in purchasing jewellery and other expensive articles, that the prisoner, after pleasing *his fancy*, left one of these bad bills to be inquired into in the course of two or three hours, when he would call again, and during this interim, it was carefully observed that some of the swindling fraternity should be present at the counting-house, where the bill was payable, and to carry on the fraud the better, the ledger was handed down, and the bearer of the bill was informed it was a good one. The swindlers had also borrowed horses from gentlemen to whom they had succeeded in introducing themselves, to convey away the very chaises they had obtained with these bills. The office was in an uproar with accusations, and the bad bills were innumerable. The Magistrate remanded the prisoner again for a future day. The prisoner conducted himself with great effrontery during the hearing.

ACCIDENTS, OFFENCES, &c.

A few evenings since some thieves broke into the house of Mr. Lesage, of Kentish-Town, and plundered it of plate and other articles to a considerable amount, with which they escaped without alarming the family or the neighbourhood, leaving the street door open. But the most extraordinary circumstance relating to this affair is the following:—On the evening succeeding the night of the robbery, a parcel was delivered from one of the Kentish-Town stages at the door of Mr. Lesage, containing the greater part of the property, plate, linen, &c. carefully packed up, and inclosing duplicates issued from a pawnbroker's shop in Holborn, covering the whole of the remainder, *with the money for which it had been pledged.* Of course it has all been recovered.

BAD LIGHTS.—Mr. Editor, Among the many abuses which exist with impunity, few call louder for correction than the continued neglect of such persons as are employed in lighting the lamps in various parts of the metropolis; a few of the principal streets indeed are tolerably well supplied, but the more retired and less frequented parts are most grossly neglected. In order to illustrate the assertion, I beg leave to state an instance in confirmation of what I advance:—Returning on Tuesday morning from a friend's house adjacent to the City-road between the hours of one and two, I was actually confounded, scarcely one lamp in a dozen was burning; and, in fact where a light was visible, it might justly be compared to the wick of an expiring candle, of no possible utility to any but the abandoned of both sexes, who choose "darkness rather than light, because their deeds are evil." Really, Mr. Editor, what with bad light, and the superannuated state of our bull-dogs (or watchmen), it will, in process of time, if not remedied, hardly be safe for persons, let their business be ever so urgent, to be out during the night. The nature of the abuse in question requires early investigation; and, for the safety of his Majesty's liege subjects, immediate correction. R. H. J.

DEATHS.

On Thursday the Right Hon. Guy Carleton, Lord Dorchester, Knight of the Bath, a General in the Army, Colonel of the 4th or Queen's own Dragoons, Governor of Fort Charlemont, in Ireland, and Governor General and Commander in Chief in Canada. His Lordship is succeeded in his title and estate by his eldest son Thomas, now Lord Dorchester, a General in the Army, Lieutenant-Governor of New Brunswick, and Colonel *en second* of the 60th Foot.

Printed and published by JOHN HUNT, at the EXAMINER Office, 15, Beaufort Buildings, Strand.—Price 1½d.